

Depletion in groundwater level

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Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a constant depletion in groundwater level in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to deal with this critical situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) Ground water levels in various parts of the Country are declining because of continuous withdrawal due to reasons such as increased demand of fresh water for various uses, vagaries of rainfall, increased population, industrialization and urbanization etc.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) carries out ground water monitoring four times a year in different States. In order to assess the declining/rising trend in water level on a long-term basis, pre-monsoon water level data 2019 has been compared with the decadal average (2009-2018) water level. Analysis of data indicates decline in ground water level in about 61% of the wells being monitored. State / UT-wise details are given in Statement (*See* below).

Water being a State subject, efforts to conserve and manage ground water is primarily States responsibility. A number of States have done notable work in this regard. Of these, mention can be made of 'Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan' in Rajasthan, 'Jalyukt Shibar' in Maharashtra, 'Sujalam Sufalam Abhiyan' in Gujarat, 'Mission Kakatiya' in Telangana, Neeru Chettu' in Andhra Pradesh among others.

Government of India launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan which is a time bound campaign with a mission mode approach intended to improve water availability including ground water conditions in the water stressed blocks of 256 districts in India. In this regard, teams of officers from Central Government along-with technical officers from Ministry of Jal Shakti were deputed to visit water stressed districts and to work in close collaboration with district level officials to undertake suitable interventions.

Other steps taken by the Central Government to control water depletion and promote rain water harvesting / conservation are at the following URL: http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf

*Statement**State/UTs wise details of rise/fall in water level*

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of wells Analysed	Rise		Fall		Wells showing no change	
			No	%	No	%	No	%
1.	Andhra Pradesh	714	194	27	518	73	2	0.3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18	2	11	16	89	0	0.0
3.	Assam	230	111	48	119	52	0	0.0
4.	Bihar	619	195	32	419	68	5	0.8
5.	Chandigarh	12	4	33	8	67	0	0.0
6.	Chhattisgarh	602	237	39	352	58	13	2.2
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	18	2	11	16	89	0	0.0
8.	Daman and Diu	11	7	64	4	36	0	0.0
9.	Delhi	73	36	49	37	51	0	0.0
10.	Goa	64	18	28	46	72	0	0.0
11.	Gujarat	697	260	37	437	63	0	0.0
12.	Haryana	279	94	34	184	66	1	0.4
13.	Himachal Pradesh	101	81	80	20	20	0	0.0
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	204	86	42	118	58	0	0.0

15.	Jharkhand	271	103	38	168	62	0	0.0
16.	Karnataka	1098	217	20	881	80	0	0.0
17.	Kerala	1427	661	46	762	53	4	0.3
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1319	647	49	672	51	0	0.0
19.	Maharashtra	1645	401	24	1241	75	3	0.2
20.	Meghalaya	53	39	74	14	26	0	0.0
21.	Odisha	1064	730	69	334	31	0	0.0
22.	Puducherry	6	0	0	6	100	0	0.0
23.	Punjab	245	74	30	170	69	1	0.4
24.	Rajasthan	893	301	34	588	66	4	0.4
25.	Tamil Nadu	612	170	28	442	72	0	0.0
26.	Telangana	557	188	34	366	66	3	0.5
27.	Tripura	75	31	41	44	59	0	0.0
28.	Uttar Pradesh	592	162	27	429	72	1	0.2
29.	Uttarakhand	42	15	36	27	64	0	0.0
30.	West Bengal	653	371	57	279	43	3	0.5
TOTAL		14194	5437	38.3	8717	61.4	40	0.3

Written Answers to

[9 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions 249